



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
TERRI LYNN LAND, SECRETARY OF STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
LANSING

## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MICHIGAN THIRD PARTY TESTERS

January 15, 2009

The State of Tennessee has determined that knowledge and driving skills tests provided in Tennessee to obtain a commercial driver's license (CDL) were not given in accordance with the Rules of the Tennessee Department of Safety, nor Federal Regulation 49 CFR 383. Consequently, Tennessee intends to retest a large number of drivers.

The State of Tennessee has notified the Michigan Department of State (MDOS) that approximately 600 persons who would be subject to retesting have been reported as having obtained a Michigan CDL after obtaining a Tennessee CDL. MDOS has notified those persons (see sample letter) that they will be required to take written and driving skills tests to retain their Michigan CDL's.

Michigan third party testers authorized to conduct CDL skills testing should be prepared to receive inquiries, test these customers, and provide them with accurate information regarding this process. Testers that do not conduct CDL skills testing also may receive inquiries.

Schedule and conduct the CDL driving skills tests in the same manner as you would for other customers (except as described in this notice). Please review and ensure your staff understands the following information. Procedures differ from past retesting projects. E-mail any questions to [ThirdPartyTesting@Michigan.gov](mailto:ThirdPartyTesting@Michigan.gov) or call Third Party Testing Section.

- The customer does not visit a Secretary of State branch office before scheduling a skills test. The customer is not required to present a TIP. The customer must present their Michigan CDL. The examiner should treat the CDL as they would a TIP.
- When scheduling a test, ask questions, as needed, to ensure the customer will bring a representative vehicle. The customer must test for the vehicle group designation and endorsements on their Michigan CDL. Downgrading (or upgrading) is not an option for the customer.
- As per regular practices, the customer is responsible for any fees.
- The examiner conducts the CDL driving skills test as per department standards.
- The examiner issues a skills test certificate (TPT-010), completed as per regular practices.
- The customer presents the driving skills test certificate to a Secretary of State branch office and takes the written skills test or tests for the vehicle group designation and endorsements on their Michigan CDL.

Letters sent to customers direct them to call CDL Help Desk at (517) 322-5555 with questions.